



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park
Post Office Box 52
Hawai'i National Park, Hawai'i 96718

IN REPLY REFER TO:
A7615 (HAVO)

February 7, 2008

Memorandum

To: All Employees, Cooperators and Partners, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

From: Park Superintendent, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Subject: Elevated Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) At Kilauea Summit

Hawaiian Volcanoes Observatory has recorded substantially elevated SO₂ levels in the Kilauea Summit along the south to southwest portions of the summit since mid-January 2008. Levels in this area exceed 1 ppm and are as high as 10 ppm in a small portion of the area which corresponds to the park's SO₂ warning level Red. These sustained gas levels and an increase in respiratory distress incidents has prompted the park to adjust visitation to the area for health and safety reasons. The following orders are in place until rescinded or changed due to the dynamics of the situation:

- Crater Rim Drive from Jaggar Museum to Chain of Craters Road will be opened for drive through visitation only, no parking or stopping allowed at any pullouts, parking areas or shoulders.
- Crater Rim Trail from Jaggar Museum to Chain of Craters will be closed.
- All work in this area should be postponed until this order is rescinded unless it is an emergency.

If there is a change in the situation that affects other areas of the park you will be notified immediately and given instructions on what to do.

